

Application No. 10/692,180
Amendment dated September 10, 2004
Reply to Office Action dated June 10, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original): A method of conveying fibrous insulation material comprising the steps of:
providing an air flow stream;
selectively introducing fibrous insulation material into the air flow stream whereby the material can be selectively conveyed for application as insulation;
sensing the actual air flow stream velocity; and,
comparing the actual air flow stream velocity with a desired air stream velocity and selectively adjusting the air flow stream in response to a differential between the actual and the desired air flow stream velocities.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of selectively adjusting the rate of introducing fibrous insulation material to the air flow stream in response to a differential between the actual and desired air flow stream velocities.

Claim 3 (original): The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of sensing the actual pressure in the air flow stream and comparing the actual pressure in the air flow stream with a desired pressure and selectively adjusting the rate of introducing fibrous insulation material into the air flow stream.

Claim 4 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein, during the step of adjusting the air flow stream, a portion of the air stream is selectively allowed to escape to the atmosphere.

Claim 5 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein a variable speed blower provides the air flow stream and wherein, during the step of adjusting the air flow stream, the blower speed is selectively adjusted.

Claim 6 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein a blower provides the air flow stream and

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also provides an air vacuum stream, and further comprising the steps of vacuuming fibrous insulation material with said air vacuum stream and separating the vacuumed material from the air vacuum stream prior to said air vacuum stream entering said blower.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of selectively drawing atmospheric air into the air vacuum stream ~~downstream~~ upstream of the blower and ~~upstream~~ downstream of the separator in response to a differential between the actual and desired air flow stream velocities.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of selectively drawing atmospheric air into the air vacuum stream ~~downstream~~ upstream of the blower and ~~upstream~~ downstream of the separator whereby an air vacuum stream is selectively provided through the separator for vacuuming fibrous insulation material.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein a metering orifice is provided in the air flow stream ~~downstream~~ upstream of selectively introducing the fibrous insulation material to the air flow stream, and further comprising the steps of measuring the air stream pressure downstream and upstream of the metering orifice and determining the actual air flow stream velocity by comparing the values of the downstream and upstream air flow stream pressures.

Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein a sensing vane is provided in the air flow stream upstream of selectively introducing fibrous insulation material to the air flow stream and further comprising the step of measuring the deflection of the sensing vane, thereby sensing the actual air flow stream velocity.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein, during the step of adjusting the air flow stream, a portion of the air stream is selectively allowed to escape to the atmosphere, and further wherein a metering orifice is provided in the air flow stream ~~downstream~~ upstream of selectively introducing the fibrous insulation material to the air flow stream, and further

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comprising the steps of measuring the air stream pressure downstream and upstream of the metering orifice and determining the actual air flow stream velocity by comparing the values of the downstream and upstream air flow stream pressures.

Claim 12 (original): The method of claim 11 further comprising the step of selectively adjusting the rate of introducing fibrous insulation material to the air flow stream in response to a differential between the actual and desired air flow stream velocities.

Claim 13 (original): The method of claim 11 further comprising the step of sensing the actual pressure in the air flow stream and comparing the actual pressure in the air flow stream with a desired pressure and selectively adjusting the rate of introducing fibrous insulation material into the air flow stream.

Claim 14 (original): The method of claim 11 wherein a blower provides the air flow stream and also provides an air vacuum stream, and further comprising the steps of vacuuming fibrous insulation material with said air vacuum stream and separating the vacuumed material from the air vacuum stream prior to said air vacuum stream entering said blower.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The method of claim 14 further comprising the step of selectively drawing atmospheric air into the air vacuum stream ~~downstream~~ upstream of the blower and ~~upstream~~ downstream of the separator in response to a differential between the actual and desired air flow stream velocities.

Claim 16 (original): The method of claim 11 further comprising the step of providing a programmable logic controller and a touch screen interface for selectively controlling said method steps.

Claim 17 (original): The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of providing a programmable logic controller for controlling said method steps.

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Claim 18 (original): The method of claim 17 further comprising the step of providing a touch screen interface with said programmable logic controller allowing an operator to selectively control said method steps.

Claim 19 (original): A method of conveying fibrous insulation material comprising the steps of:
providing an air flow stream;
selectively introducing fibrous insulation material into the air flow stream whereby the material can be selectively conveyed for application as insulation;
sensing the actual pressure in the air flow stream; and,
comparing the actual air flow stream pressure with a desired air stream pressure and selectively adjusting the air flow stream in response to a differential between the actual and the desired air flow stream pressures.

Claim 20 (original): The method of claim 19 further comprising the step of selectively adjusting the rate of introducing fibrous insulation material to the air flow stream in response to a differential between the actual and desired air flow stream pressures.

Claim 21 (original): The method of claim 19 wherein, during the step of adjusting the air flow stream, a portion of the air stream is selectively allowed to escape to the atmosphere.

Claim 22 (original): The method of claim 19 wherein a variable speed blower provides the air flow stream and wherein, during the step of adjusting the air flow stream, the blower speed is selectively adjusted.

Claim 23 (original): The method of claim 19 wherein a blower provides the air flow stream and also provides an air vacuum stream, and further comprising the steps of vacuuming fibrous insulation material with said air vacuum stream and separating the vacuumed material from the air vacuum stream prior to said air vacuum stream entering said blower.

Claim 24 (currently amended): The method of claim 23, further comprising the step of

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selectively drawing atmospheric air into the air vacuum stream ~~downstream~~ upstream of the blower and ~~upstream~~ downstream of the separator in response to a differential between the actual and desired air flow stream pressures.

Claim 25 (currently amended): The method of claim 23, further comprising the step of selectively drawing atmospheric air into the air vacuum stream ~~downstream~~ upstream of the blower and ~~upstream~~ downstream of the separator whereby an air vacuum stream is selectively provided through the separator for vacuuming fibrous insulation material.

Claim 26 (original): The method of claim 19 further comprising the step of providing a programmable logic controller for controlling said method steps.

Claim 27 (original): The method of claim 26 further comprising the step of providing a touch screen interface with said programmable logic controller allowing an operator to selectively control said method steps.

Claim 28 (currently amended): A method of conveying and vacuuming fibrous insulation material comprising the steps of:

- providing an air flow stream ~~upstream~~ downstream of a blower and an air vacuum stream ~~downstream~~ upstream of said blower;

- selectively introducing fibrous insulation material into the air flow stream thereby conveying the material for application as insulation;

- vacuuming fibrous insulation material with said air vacuum stream; and,

- separating the vacuumed material from the air vacuum stream prior to said air vacuum stream entering said blower.

Claim 29 (original): The method of claim 28, further comprising the steps of:

- sensing the actual air flow stream velocity; and,

- comparing the actual air flow stream velocity with a desired air stream velocity and selectively adjusting the air flow stream in response to a differential between the actual and the

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desired air flow stream velocities.

Claim 30 (currently amended): The method of claim 29, further comprising the step of selectively drawing atmospheric air into the air vacuum stream ~~downstream~~ upstream of the blower and ~~upstream~~ downstream of the separator in response to a differential between the actual and desired air flow stream velocities.

Claim 31 (original): The method of claim 29 further comprising the step of selectively adjusting the rate of introducing fibrous insulation material to the air flow stream in response to a differential between the actual and desired air flow stream velocities.

Claim 32 (original): The method of claim 29 wherein, during the step of adjusting the air flow stream, a portion of the air stream is selectively allowed to escape to the atmosphere.

Claim 33 (original): The method of claim 29 wherein a variable speed blower provides the air flow stream and wherein, during the step of adjusting the air flow stream, the blower speed is selectively adjusted.

Claim 34 (currently amended): The method of claim 29 wherein a metering orifice is provided in the air flow stream ~~downstream~~ upstream of selectively introducing the fibrous insulation material to the air flow stream, and further comprising the steps of measuring the air stream pressure downstream and upstream of the metering orifice and determining the actual air flow stream velocity by comparing the values of the downstream and upstream air flow stream pressures.

Claim 35 (original): The method of claim 29 wherein a sensing vane is provided in the air flow stream upstream of selectively introducing fibrous insulation material to the air flow stream and further comprising the step of measuring the deflection of the sensing vane, thereby sensing the actual air flow stream velocity.

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Claim 36 (original): The method of claim 29 further comprising the step of sensing the actual pressure in the air flow stream and comparing the actual pressure in the air flow stream with a desired pressure and selectively adjusting the rate of introducing fibrous insulation material into the air flow stream.

Claim 37 (currently amended): The method of claim 28, further comprising the step of selectively drawing atmospheric air into the air vacuum stream ~~downstream~~ upstream of the blower and ~~upstream~~ downstream of the separator whereby an air vacuum stream is selectively provided through the separator for vacuuming fibrous insulation material.

Claim 38 (currently amended): The method of claim 28, further comprising the step of sensing the vacuum in said air vacuum stream ~~downstream~~ upstream of said blower and selectively drawing atmospheric air into the air vacuum stream ~~downstream~~ upstream of the blower and ~~upstream~~ downstream of the separator in response to said sensed vacuum.

Claim 39 (original): The method of claim 28 further comprising the step of providing a programmable logic controller for controlling said method steps.

Claim 40 (original): The method of claim 39 further comprising the step of providing a touch screen interface with said programmable logic controller allowing an operator to selectively control said method steps.

Claims 41-76 (withdrawn).